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I am truly living my dream and having a ball, as I get ready to teach my 8th year here at TJ. This year, I will be teaching AAA-109 (Advanced Academic Achievement) where students who pass my class can not only earn 5 high school credits, but also 3 college credits for $free! I will also continue teaching ‘Introduction to AVID’ (9th grade). In addition, I will also be teaching 10th grade AVID while also serving as TJ’s AVID Site Team Coordinator. ‘AVID’ stands for the Advancement via Individual Determination. Its mission is dedicated to closing the achievement gap (or as I call it the ‘opportunity gap’) by preparing ALL students for college and other post-secondary opportunities: <http://www.avid.org/what-is-avid.ashx>.  
  
Prior to teaching, I worked in corporate America for 20+ years, including IBM, Anthem of Colorado, Chase Bank, and National Jewish Health. In May 2012, I earned my teaching certificate in Special Education from Metro State College of Denver. Prior to that, I earned my B.A. degree in Economics from Colorado State University and graduated *Summa Cum Laude* from the University of Phoenix with a M.A. degree in Organizational Management.  
In 2014, my wife and I added a new baby girl ‘Kiana Drew Perry’ to our family, so we both have been very busy taking care of a toddler. I cannot fathom how big she is now at a whopping 3 years of age. In my spare time, my wife and I enjoy working out, travelling and some of the great outdoor activities that Colorado offers. In the summer, we love to travel to California to where we have several vacation homes to decompress from the busy school year. We also enjoy cheering on our favorite home teams: CSU Rams, Denver Broncos, Nuggets, Colorado- Rockies and Avalanche, and any performance at the Denver Center for Performing Arts.  
  
I am looking forward to a great 2017-2018 school year, working with each of my students and TJ faculty. *Go Spartans!*  
  
**Eric Perry**

***"At the desk where I sit, I have learned one great truth. The answer for all the problems of the world - come to a single word. That word is "education…” LB.Johnson***